



**Limiting access to pornography in our state libraries** – is one of my priorities again this session. The citizens of Washington State should not be paying for access to pornography. There are enough advances in Internet filters to prevent viewing sexually explicit material on the world wide web, but we currently do not have these filters in place. We've heard enough horror stories about Internet usage leading to criminal activities and the exploitation of our children. It's time to take decisive action.

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Last year, I introduced legislation that would require libraries to have policies and technology in place to protect their Internet users from cyberspace pornography. The bill had broad, bi-partisan support, but failed to advance to the full Senate for a vote. I will again push for a committee hearing on SB 5233 to keep the issue at the forefront.

**Transportation solutions** – will also be one of my highest priorities this session. As Chair of the Transportation Permit Efficiency and Accountability Committee (TPEAC), I am leading a group of agency representatives and legislators in efforts to think "outside the box" in dealing with our transportation crisis. We are working through a process to reduce the cost, bring down the delays and increase the environmental benefits of transportation projects. This will result in a much more efficient

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operation of the Department of Transportation and a reduction in costs to other agencies which must oversee our transportation projects.

Thinking outside the box led me to introduce a proposal last year that would create a new north/ south corridor parallel to I-5. This corridor could be a private/public partnership so taxes would not necessarily need to be raised to support it. It would relieve pressure on I-5 and all the major tributaries in King, Pierce and Snohomish Counties. It could also provide a corridor for other infrastructure such as fiber optics, power lines, pipelines for gas, freight lines and fast passenger trains.

### **Cracking down on the sale and production of meth**

– is a must for the Washington State Legislature this year. Meth has become a rampant problem for Lewis County. The arrest rates for meth continue to skyrocket. And residual crimes surrounding meth – burglary, domestic violence, auto theft – are increasing as well. While the Legislature has addressed this issue in the past, we need more: more federal money; more

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manpower; more intelligence on drug users; more education in the schools; and more long-term sentences for repeat users, dealers and producers of meth.

Our state's budget crisis should not result in a general tax increase.

Governor Locke signed a budget last year that will spend \$700 million more than the state will take in over the next two years. While some of us called for restraint, the resounding theme was to spend, spend, spend. And now that the state is in the midst of recession, we have some very tough decisions to make. I want you to know that I do not support a general increase in taxes.

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We are all going through hard times; we are all trying to make ends meet; we are all having to live within our means. Government should be no different.

